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Secretaries

(EFP - General Instructions - 28)

U. S. Department of Agriculture July 8, 1946 — VOLUME XVI

FAMINE CAMPAIGN ROUNDUP

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The Act of June 29, 1946, extending the SECOND WAR POWERS ACT, specifically provides that nothing contained in that Act or any other Federal Act, except the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942 or the Stabilization Act of 1942, shall be construed to authorize the establishment by the Government of maximum prices for any commodity. Therefore, with the expiration of the Price Control Act of 1942 and the Stabilization Act of 1942, the Government's authority to control prices under those acts has terminated. Priorities and allocation powers (rationing) under the Second War Powers Act, however, are continued by the Act of June 29, 1946.

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#### PMA PROGRAMS AFFECTED BY CURRENT PRICE SITUATION

The expiration of OPA legislation at midnight June 30 brought several changes in farm commodity programs of the Department of Agriculture. As soon as the price situation is clarified, detailed announcements about such programs will be issued. In the meantime, some of the more important program changes which became effective July 1 are:

WHEAT --- Immediate suspension of the requirement that farmers must sell one-half of the wheat they deliver to country elevators, also the requirement that trucker-merchants sell within 15 days wheat they deliver to grain elevators. The Commodity Credit Corporation will continue to offer to buy wheat at market prices not exceeding the ceilings existing June 30.

MFAT — Set-asides of meat and lard by packing plants for Government purchase reduced to zero. Terminated are orders controlling slaughtering in Federally inspected plants and providing for certification of non-Federally inspected plants.



The Department has announced that the following orders and programs will continue in effect:

- \*\* Set-asides on evaporated milk, Cheddar cheese, and nonfat dry milk.
- War food orders relating to fats and oils, and prohibiting sales of whipping cream in excess of 19 percent butterfat.
- \*\* 1945-crop program CCC contracts for soybeans and peanuts.
- \*\* Sugar rationing and allocations.

If price control is renewed and funds for dairy production payments are made available by Congress, the Department will carry out the previously announced policy with regard to income for dairy farmers. The same situation prevails for price-support payments to producers for 1946-crop flaxseed (up through June 30 supported at \$3.60 a bushel, Minneapolis basis, for No. 1 flaxseed).

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# WHEAT SHIPMENTS ABROAD TO CONTINUE

Shipments of wheat to needy countries will be continued from stocks acquired by the Department of Agriculture through the certificate and bonus programs and new-crop set-asides which were in effect until June 30.

Estimates are that this wheat will fill shipments until about August 10. A million tons of wheat, flour, and other grain products are expected to be sent in July and over 80 percent of this amount is already at ports or in transit.

Commodity Credit Corporation will continue to offer to purchase wheat at market prices which do not exceed ceiling prices at terminal markets as of June 30, 1946.

Reduction of set-aside provisions for sales of new wheat crop from 50 percent to zero has resulted in the discontinuance of Government purchases under these provisions. Until this reduction went into effect on June 30, Government purchases ranged from 25 to 50 percent of new-crop wheat being marketed in certain sections of the country.

Orders applying to use of wheat for distilling purposes, for livestock feeding, and for milling flour and food manufacture continue in effect.

#### WORLD FOOD PROSPECTS .

Careful use of all food products must continue, at least until 1947 crops are in. to keep hunger and famine from becoming even worse.

That is the lesson to be drawn from the Department of Agriculture's latest report on world food prospects.

"Even with larger production, total supplies of available food products during 1946-47 will not be much above those of a year earlier," says the report, "and careful utilization of all food products must be continued to avoid a critical food shortage prior to availability of 1947 crops."

Growing conditions in the Northern Hemisphere were reported "substantially better" in mid-June than a year earlier. But food reserves at the start of the current harvest season will be at a low level.

Moreover, total acreage planted to food crops is still below prewar. Yields are being restricted by shortages — of fertilizer, draft power, and other facilities. Thus, "the world production of food in 1946-47 will be scmewhat larger than the relatively low levels of 1945-46, but will be definitely below prewar, particularly on a per capita basis."

Specifically, wheat production is expected to be somewhat larger, but the total won't be very different because of a sharp drop in stocks.

Rice is now being planted in major producing areas, and a small increase is forecast.

Sugar production probably will be somewhat greater, expecially in Europe.

Edible fats and oils supplies may be slightly larger than in 1945-46, but will be much below requirements.

Meat, dairy products, and eggs probably will be in shorter supply during 1946-47 because of the shortage and high price of feeds.

The report reflected generally favorable growing conditions in most parts of the world. However, the current food situation has deteriorated in several areas during the past month despite increased shipments of food products from most exporting countries. Rations showed a further decrease in some European countries.

In several of the food deficit areas, particularly some parts of Europe, India, and Philippines, China and Japan, large shipments of food products will be needed during the months of July through September.

Total movement of food products from export Nations is expected to show an increase in June over that for May.

# FLOUR PRODUCTION HIGH; TREND IS DOWNWARD

During the first 5 months of 1946, over 117 million sacks of wheat flour were milled in this country compared with a little more than 109 million produced in the same period of 1945, according to Bureau of Census figures.

January and February of 1946 had higher production than any month during the years 1945 and 1946. Over 25 million sacks were produced in each of these months. However, production trended downward in March to 20.9 million sacks — lower than the March 1945 figure but above the March average for the crop years 1934 to 1939. This downward trend continued during April and May.

For the first 11 months of the current crop year beginning last July, an increase of 7 percent in flour milled is indicated, compared with the corresponding period of the 1944-45 crop year. Actual production figures are 247 million sacks of wheat flour milled during the period from July 1945, through May 1946, compared with 230 million sacks in 1944-45.

With June production yet to be added, the 247 million sacks already milled during this crop year shows a substantial increase in flour production above the average production of 225 million sacks for 1940 through 1945.

Because of the higher extraction rate in effect since March, the amount of wheat used in milling flour during March, April, and May is less. Production of feed byproducts in those months also decreased.

During the first 5 months of 1946, about 28.6 million sacks of flour were exported from this country to needy people abroad. The figures on flour exported cannot be compared with flour production during the same period because the exported flour was milled during previous months.

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#### UNRRA REPORTS

\*\*\*Since the program was begun a year ago, UNRRA has shipped more than 100,000 head -- 82,000 work animals and 20,000 dairy cattle -- to Yugoslavia, Greece, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Italy, and China. No meat animals are being sent. About 200,000 head are expected to be shipped between now and December -- 150,000 of which will be mares to help cultivate fields and replace men and women in front of the plow. When complete, the UNRRA livestock program will replace between 2 and 30 percent of the war losses in draft power.

- \*\*Poland's harvest prospects have been steadily deteriorating due
  to widespread drought conditions. Winter grains have ripened
  prematurely and in some fields the crop can be used only for hay.
  In the Warsaw area, where best weather conditions prevailed,
  winter grain was only about one inch high on June 15 and was
  beginning to burn in spots.
- \*\*\*\*Canadians have voluntarily turned back 66,000 unused meat coupons to the government. As a result more than 250,000 pounds of meat has been made available for shipment to needy countries.
- \*\*\*Bread cereal extraction rate in Albania was about 99 percent on May 19. The bulk of Albanian corn is milled in village water mills each village has two or three with an average capacity of 15 to 50 kilos an hour.
- \*\*\*Two-thirds of the original 160 dwellings housing a population of 600 on a Byelorussian collective farm near Minsk were destroyed by German bombing. All barms and granaries also were destroyed; tractors, horses, livestock, and 70 percent of the farm tools were destroyed or stolen by the Nazis. Before the war, the farm produced annually 300 calves and 850 pigs; now is has 16 calves and no pigs:
- Every expedient has been used in Italy to save the bread ration during June. Oatmeal has been mixed with the flour to make it go farther. Genoa ground hundreds of tons of UNRRA dried beans and split peas to stretch its wheat supply. On June 15, it was estimated that the entire Italian peninsula had on hand only 6 days' supply of grain.

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: NEWS DEVELOPMENTS

Marked improvement in the delivery and distribution of UNRRA FOOD TO CHINA is reported by Director General F. H. LaGuardia of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

The relief program for China now has enough "bulk and momentum" to insure regular deliveries of food and other supplies, he said. In addition, the internal transportation situation has improved to permit more supplies to be moved into interior areas which have been hard hit by famine.

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PUEBLO INDIANS in New Mexico and ESKIMOS in Alaska are doing their bit of sharing in the famine emergency. The Indians have contributed part of their small supplies of wheat and corn, and the Eskimos have sent a check for \$40 to UNRRA to help in the global fight against hunger.

In a note accompanying their contribution, the Puebloes said:

"Pretty hard for peoples and childrens to forget the war and live the right way for peace with empty bellies. So we say we haven't got much saved for our emergency but they got emergency over there so maybe we can help them."

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Two recent reports, one gloomy and the other bright, on the 1946 HARVEST IN GERMANY were made recently.

The harvest outlook for the American-occupied zone is for only enough food to give each person a daily ration of "something less than 1,000 calories," according to the food statistics branch of the German Council of States. This ration is now 1,275 calories a day.

On the other hand, the harvest of the Russian zone looks good enough to maintain and perhaps raise the present average ration of 1,400 calories daily, according to German officials.

German officials in the Russian zone see no chance of exporting food to the other occupied zones. The only possible exports would be seeds.

Crop yields in both the Russian and the American zones will be 20 to 25 percent below the peace years, principally because of the lack of fertilizer.

: A C T:I O N :

# AMERICAN YOUTH TO OUTLINE PLANS FOR FIGHTING FAMINE

A movement to mobilize 32 million American children to save food and fight famine will be launched July 15 at the White House. To begin the one-day conference, teen-agers representing 17 national youth organizations will meet with President Truman to discuss plans for easing world emergency conditions.

Speaking for all races and creeds, the youngsters will outline their plans at a conference attended by Chester C. Davis, Chairman of the Famine Emergency Committee; Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture; Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Commerce; and Will Clayton, Assistant Secretary of State. Mr. Davis and the Cabinet members will picture the part food plays in world affairs today.

At a famine luncheon at the Mayflower Hotel, the youthful delegates will be addressed by D. A. FitzGerald, Secretary-General of the International Emergency Food Council, who will give a first-hand account of his recent world tour with former-President Herbert Hoover.

An afternoon session will climax the day-long conference. Delegates will recommend methods by which the youth of the Nation can participate in the movement, and shape a program enlisting the aid of all the youth of the country. They will stress conservation and increased production here to reduce starvation in all parts of the world.

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## PLENTIFUL FOODS

A fact statement on onions will be out soon, giving information on big "early summer" crop.

Poach meeting was held July 2 with farm and industry representatives who pledged cooperation in moving the big crop.

USDA buying of early potatoes hit the 15,000 car mark the weekend of June 29, with about 600 cars per day being bought the following week.





## VICTORY GARDENS AND HOME FOOD PRESERVATION

Radio allocations are set for National Home Food Preservation Week, July 15-22. This will be a kick-off of program lasting several weeks to make this greatest home food preservation year in history. Red Cross Naborhood Canning Bee kits on food preservation are being multilithed and will be distributed to local Red Cross chapters and cooperating agencies beginning July 8.

Continuous campaign to plant and replant every spare square foot until frost-time is taken in Victory Garden releases.

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#### MOTION PICTURES

"Our Children," 35 mm. famine film, is flashing across the screens of 25 Rhode Island theaters, with showings varying from 3 to 5 days. The 16 mm. films, "Suffer Little Children," "Freedom From Famine," and "Displaced Persons," were spliced together and shown in Providence 26 times between May 21 and June 18, with total attendance of about 11,000 persons.

Throughout Idaho, "Our Children" is being shown in local theaters. Theater managers have expressed their willingness to show more films of this type when available.

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# LOCAL INITIATIVE

Arkansas. Pike County reports that all cafes and cating places have been sent letters, highlighting reasons for using more potatoes and less bread.

New Jersey. Ckerks in Rahway grocery stores are including a conservation flyer in each package they wrap, which outlines 6 major points of the program. The idea is going over well and spreading.

Texas. Bob Hope, who was in Houston for a show, took time off to go before the microphone and plug the local fight against famine.

Oklahoma notes "an increase in the use of Famine Emergoncy Campaign material in retailers' advertising throughout the State."

Georgia, like many other States, is pushing potatoes as a plentiful food to replace wheat products. Letters were sent recently to all counties, urging them to push spuds.

Minnesota. Some 14,000 "Bread is Life" posters were distributed to hotels and restaurants by trade organizations, and to retail stores by baking firms.

Ohio. A survey showed that 182 mayors have issued famine proclamations, State clergymen are cooperating almost 100 percent, fat salvage is going satisfactorily in almost all counties, and hotels and eating places have cut wheat use by about one-third.

Indiana. The Governor recently called a parley at which all State food men were told of the need for conservation in eating places. Also, he has proclaimed the week of July 15 "Home Food Preservation Week."

Michigan. In Detroit, carlot receivers of potatoes are raising funds to carry out an ad campaign promoting the use of spuds, which are also being pushed along many other fronts in the State. The State's Restaurant and Hotel Association and Governors Food Council have bought and are distributing 30,000 table tents.

<u>Wisconsin</u>. Many counties are conducting home garden drives. In Sparta, a score sheet is used to compare production records.

Massachusetts. A "Famine Relief Roll" appearing in State papers says:
"I realize the desperate need of the hungry and starving people of wartorn countries and I shall do my part in saving wheat, fats, and oils for them."

<u>Vermont</u>. The Episcopal diocese of Vermont has set aside a portion of its summer church school to a discussion of food conservation.

North Dakota is working on a poultry-culling campaign.

# LARGE-CITY COMMITTEES

Report-of-the-week honors are shared by Baltimore, Md., and Trenton, N. J.

Chairman Wise of the BALTIMORE FEC reports continued "splendid cooperation" from schools, churches, organizations and business houses. Accomplishments include:

50,000 posters distributed by Home News, a weekly newspaper; 5,000 more distributed through FEC publicity center.

Retail merchants active, with full-page ads, slugs in popular ais, window displays, and on radio. Large department store has sign across entire front of building - "Don't Waste Food - It May Save a Life."

Garden Sub-Committee Chairman reports more Victory
Gardens in city than at any time during war years. Garden and
Canning center opened in Sears Community Building. Large number
of community gardens of from 12 to 90 plots each; recreation
department sponsors 9 school gardens, largest covering 1½ acres.

Home Food Preservation demonstrations carried on through cooperation of utility and dairy companies.

citizen cooperation attributed to city-wide coverage by organizations of all types and use of media - direct activity of American Red Cross, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts; wide showing of famine emergency films; regular releases by press and radio; use of industrial plant house organs; advertising in street cars and busses; movie trailers, etc.

TRENT ON and Mercer County activities, as reported by Mrs. Kathryn Cooke, include:

Famine pictures used in window displays in busiest center of town. Conservation slogans used widely in merchants' ads.

\*\*\* Church bulletins reminded people as to need for sharing, several churches and some clubs using this pledge:

"Give us this day our daily bread
May we share, that hungry be fed,
I Pledge to save fats, oils, and wheat
Conserve my food, that all may eat."

Newspapers cooperative; food page articles weekly; spot stories on meetings; special articles.

Police force assists in distribution of program pamphlets.
Restaurants cooperating through posters and table tents; 118
of them contacted by League of Women Voters and each pledged cooperation.

From MILWAUKEE come photographic examples of unique cooperation — electrical displays of slogan "Share a Meal — Save a Life" high above the street level on the City Hall and on the Electrical Company Building. The Milwaukee Committee is planning a sample survey to ascertain. (1) response to appeals and (2) opinions on entire famine feeding program.